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Warsaw's Castle Square as it looked in August 1939 (above) and as the U. S. House Foreign Affairs Sub-Committee found it in August 1945 (below).



PRISONERS OF PEACE *

by D. HOPE-RITCHIE

"Honest men served you faithfully in this action, Sir, they are trusty; I beseech you in the name of God not to discourage them. . . . He that ventures his life for the liberty of his country, I wish he trust God for the liberty of his conscience, and you for the liberty he fights for."

(Oliver Cromwell to the politicians at Westminster after the Battle of Naseby)



"A friend in need is a friend indeed." A Polish soldier befriends Dutch children.

TO the ordinary citizen the political issues involved in the recent public developments with regard to Poland, Russia, America and ourselves, may perhaps seem outside his scope. But there is at the same time a purely humanitarian problem of the first magnitude facing every citizen of this country. I am speaking of the million or more Polish Prisoners-of-War and Displaced Persons who are still in camps in Germany and cut off in many instances from all contact with the outside world.

According to the latest estimates of the 14th July this year, there are now under Allied administration in German territory 757,372 Polish prisoners-of-war and displaced persons so far accounted for. This figure refers only to those Poles who live in some hundreds of camps containing numbers varying from as few as ten to over seven thousand people, and scattered throughout British, American and French occupied territory.

The following is a rough estimate and the categories into which they can be divided:—

British Zone	539,915
American Zone	181,525
French Zone	35,932

Prisoners of War	159,092
Displaced Persons	598,280

About 60 per cent of the Polish population in Germany at the time of the German collapse were agricultural laborers deported from Poland and working on German farms. Only a part of these have found a place in the camps organized by the Allied authorities in May of this year. The remainder, amounting, it is estimated, to 300 to 400 thousand people, are apprehensive of these camps—many of which are still surrounded by barbed wire and have extremely bad accommodation and feeding conditions—and are still living in scattered communities, thus frustrating any precise estimate of their real number. It must be assumed, however, that the total number of Poles in Germany—both prisoners-of-war and displaced persons—is greater than one million.

With regard to the displaced persons, of whom the great majority are men under forty years of age, and a fair percentage of the rest young children and babies, it seems a strangely inadequate arrangement whereby only 146 Polish liaison-officers were permitted by S.H.A.E.F. to deal with their manifold and grievous needs. This was the number already nominated by the 20th May this year when, with no reason given for the decision, all further nominations of these officers were stopped by order of S.H.A.E.F., and from that date these 146 liaison-officers have each had to deal with over 3,000 people urgently needing the most efficient and speedy care.

I wonder how many people in this country realize that in most cases both prisoners-of-war and displaced persons are living in the same camps, with the same accommodation—or lack of accommodation—in huts and damaged buildings as they were under the Germans. In some camps even, as at Haftrug, Haldern and Walchum, to mention only three, the displaced persons are living in tents, with no prospect of

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Halinka

Annual Subscription, Five Dollars—Single Copy, Twenty Cents

AFTER "LIBERATION" — LOOTING

by W. M. BESTERMAN

ON August 26th, 1945, the Associated Press had a dispatch from Gdansk (Danzig) describing the activities of this ancient Polish port on the Baltic. In its opening paragraphs the dispatch remarked that among the "scores of small cargo vessels, which have come in the past three weeks to revive Polish commerce . . . the Red flag of the Soviet Union is dominant."

Red or no Red flag flying on the masts of the cargo ships, there was obviously reason for a feeling of satisfaction when you learned that a country as ravaged, pillaged and ruined as Poland was by the Germans, is on its way to restore its much needed foreign trade. Relieved, you went on reading the Associated Press dispatch. Here is what it said:

" . . . there is an agreement with the Soviet Union whereby the Russians take 70 per cent of items available for reparations and leave 30 per cent for the Poles. The Gdansk Province includes both the former free city of Danzig and the artificially constructed Polish harbor of Gdynia. In western territories along the Oder and Neisse rivers, the Russians have been allotted 85 per cent and the Poles 15 per cent."

In other words—the ports and industrial provinces allocated to Poland under the Potsdam agreement are to be stripped of between 70 and 85 per cent of their equipment. But the Associated Press dispatch was still more specific:

" . . . The reparations—or 'removals,' to use the term of the Potsdam communiqué—range from livestock and household furniture through tractors, bicycles, steam boilers and electric generators. Before the war Danzig Bay was Polish. At present it is in the hands of the Red Banner Baltic Fleet. It is to be turned back to the Poles after the Russians have taken away their share of removals."

It is not difficult to figure out the workability of the "Polish" ports and "Polish" industrial regions after the "removals" including machinery, house furniture and . . . bicycles.

The Associated Press does not hide this apprehension of its correspondent, because this is what it adds:

" . . . Before Gdansk can be expected to rival its 1939 trade records it appears obvious that new dock equipment must be installed by the Polish Government to replace that acquired by the Soviet Union. Where Poland will find this heavy machinery nobody here as yet hazards a direct prediction. But there is an implied hint that perhaps some machinery may be forthcoming from the United States."

Or—as the noted Washington columnist, Constantine Brown, points out in the "Evening Star" of September 14, 1945:

" . . . America is paying in a round-about way through UNRRA some of the reparations Russia is exacting from Germany. This is reported to be the conclusion of the official House Investigating Committee which spent several weeks in Europe looking into conditions concerning 'special legislation' covering UNRRA and Lend-Lease.

The Representatives . . . discovered for instance that 85 per cent of the port facilities in the former German-occupied harbors of Gdynia, Danzig (Gdansk) and Stettin have been taken to Russia as reparations. In order to put these ports, which are now Polish in working order, American materials are being sent to replace the machinery taken to Russia. Thus we are indirectly paying German war reparations to the Soviets."

Unfortunately, I am compelled to admit, that I have yet failed to see any report about American machinery being sent

to Poland to replace the cargo now being loaded on the freighters of the "Red Banner Baltic Fleet," which have come to the Polish ports to "revive Polish commerce."

Instead, I have noticed these lines in Mr. Constantine Brown's column:

" . . . Since the three Polish ports in the Baltic Sea cannot be used to bring in supplies, the Romanian port of Constanza in the Black Sea is serving as a port of entry. Conditions in that Romanian port controlled by the Russians appear hopeless. Much of the American supplies are being spirited away soon after they are unloaded and find their way into the black market. The Representatives have, for instance, seen no less than 322 American trucks, desperately needed in Poland, where the transportation system has broken down, on the Constanza wharfs, stripped of their tires and other equipment which, they were told, had been sold in the black market. Many other supplies, such as food and clothing, also disappear quickly and are sold to those few who can pay sky-high black market prices. Only a relatively small quantity of goods reaches Poland, where it is being distributed in accordance with the wishes of the Russian administrator.

"The coming winter will be the hardest Poland has ever experienced. All the cattle and the horses, not only from Poland but also from Czechoslovakia and Austria, are being sent to the U.S.S.R. The only traffic on the hundreds of miles of roads which the Representatives could see from the planes which took them to Warsaw and Moscow was herds of cattle which were being moved from west to east . . ."

Mr. Brown goes on to say what happened to the Polish peasants, who were said to be made happy by the "agrarian reform":

" . . . Seven thousand Polish estates . . . were divided into 2,500,000 small holdings and given to the formerly destitute peasantry. These holdings range from 6 to 10 acres. Normally, such small properties would barely be sufficient to feed their owners. But the peasants, being deprived of cattle, have to work the land with their own hands.

But even if the impossible were achieved and through hard work the peasants could fully exploit their own property, a law passed by the government provides that 80 per cent of the crops must be surrendered to the authorities. The Red Army of occupation, which must remain in Poland for some time to assure communications between the U.S.S.R. and the German territories under Russia's control, has to be fed by the Poles and the appetite of the Red soldiers is healthy."

This picture of organized looting of the "liberated" countries of Europe is implemented by Mr. Harry F. Kern, foreign editor of "Newsweek" (Sept. 3, 1945) in a description of Russian conduct in their zone of occupation embracing Germany and territories to the east:

" . . . the Russians had stripped their zone of everything movable. This included machinery in factories, most of the cattle, and a large part of the able-bodied male population. The machinery was simply pulled out of the factories, loaded onto freight cars, and sent to the Soviet. The cattle were driven to the east in great herds. The male population was shipped away, presumably for use as slave labor. Crops rotted in the fields in the Soviet zone while the Red Army confiscated what was left for its own use . . ."

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A Harvard Professor's Tribute to

Pulaski One Hundred Years Ago

LIVES
or
ROGER WILLIAMS,
TIMOTHY DWIGHT,
AND
COUNT PULASKI.

BOSTON:
CHARLES C LITTLE AND JAMES BROWN
1845

Frontispiece of Jared Sparks' biography of Casimir Pulaski, published in Boston in 1845.

Jared Sparks (1789-1866) was an influential American historian and educator. A chaplain of the House of Representatives in his early life, he left the ministry in 1823 to edit the *North American Review*. Subsequently, he devoted most of his energy to historical scholarship. In 1838 he was appointed to the first American professorship of history at Harvard and in 1849 was elected president of that institution.

Sparks' historical research dealt chiefly with the American Revolution. Also important was the 25-volume *Library of American Biography* which he edited and to which he contributed a number of lives.

Below are two excerpts from Jared Sparks' colorful biography of the Polish hero who gave his life on the battlefield so that America might be free—Casimir Pulaski.

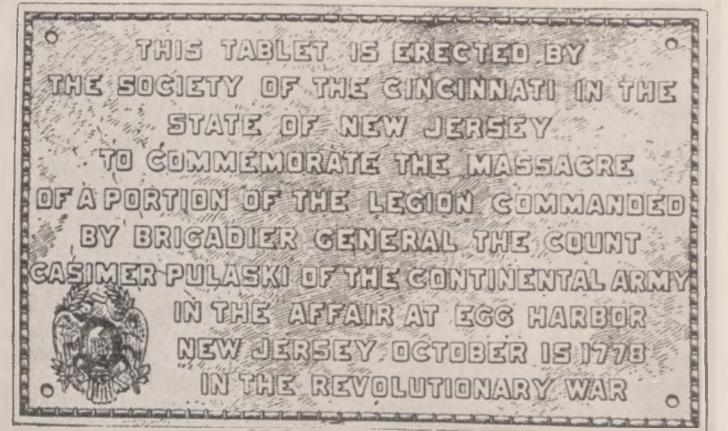
NO event in history has been regarded with so much astonishment and indignation, by all men possessing the common feeling of Humanity and sense of justice, as the dismemberment of Poland. A country of ancient renown, one fifth larger than France, and containing twenty millions of people, has been ravaged, plundered, divided, subdued, and its political existence annihilated, by the treachery and cupidity of its three formidable neighbors, Russia, Austria, and Prussia. In the annals of mankind there is not a more revolting chapter, than that in which are recorded the particulars of this conspiracy against the rights of men, this league of infamy between the strong to crush the weak and devour their substance. The dark picture of selfishness, rapacity, and violence, is not relieved by a single spot of redeeming light.

To Russia belongs the odious preeminence of taking the lead in this career of crime.

Exasperated by the atrocious acts of foreign aggression, it is no wonder that many of the nobility, in all parts of Poland, should resort to measures, which every man who loves his country and values its independence will adopt under similar circumstances. They resolved to take up arms, and drive the invaders from the soil, which they had inherited from their ancestors, and which was their own by every principle of justice, and by every right recognized in the codes of civilized nations.

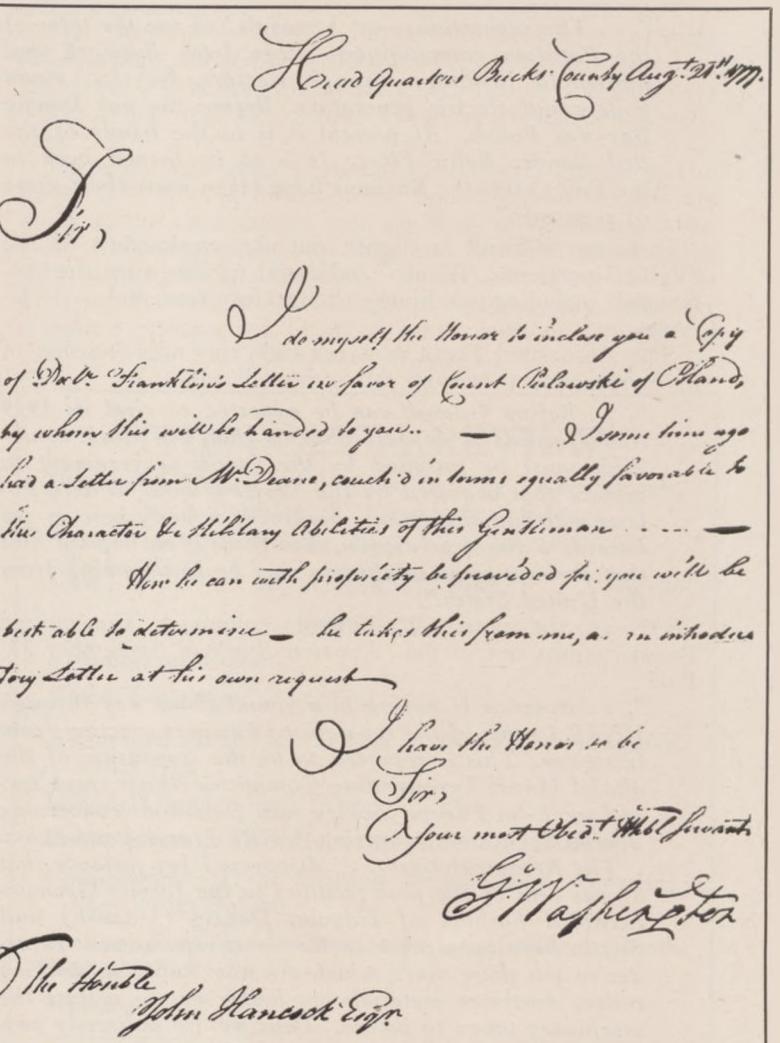
Among those, who were the foremost to rally for their country's rescue, was the family of Pulaski.

The plan of assault was to be made on the redoubts at the north part of the enemy's lines. In the order for the assault, it is said, "The cavalry under the command of Count Pulaski will parade at the same time with the infantry, and follow the left column of the French troops, and precede the column of the American light troops; they will endeavor



Memorial tablet erected at Egg Harbor, New Jersey, "to commemorate the massacre of a portion of the legion commanded by Brigadier General the Count Casimir Pulaski."

to penetrate the enemy's lines between the battery on the left of the Spring Hill redoubt and the next towards the river." They were then to pass to the left and secure such parties of the enemy as might be lodged in that quarter. Both the French and American cavalry were to be under the command of Pulaski.



George Washington's letter to John Hancock, President of the Continental Congress, introducing Casimir Pulaski, August 21, 1777.

The assault was made, and the assailants were repulsed. A sergeant deserted from the American army on the evening after the order for the attack was given out, and carried it to the British general within the lines, so that he knew the plan of assault, and had time to make the best disposition of his forces. As the columns approached the redoubts, they were met by a tremendous fire from the enemy's batteries. The French and American columns were each to attack a particular redoubt. Lieutenant-Colonel Laurens gained the parapet of one redoubt under a galling fire. General McIntosh pressed forward to another. The French column was led by Count d'Estaing in person.

The cavalry were stationed in the rear of the advanced columns, and in the confusion which appeared in front, and in the obscurity caused by the smoke, Pulaski was uncertain where he ought to act. To gain information on this point, he determined to ride forward in the heat of the conflict, and called to Captain Bentelou to accompany him. They had proceeded but a short distance, when they heard of the havoc that had been produced in the swamp among the French troops. Hoping to animate these troops by his presence, he rushed onward, and, while riding swiftly to the place where they were stationed, he received a wound in the groin from a swivelshot, and fell from his horse near the abatis. Captain Bentelou was likewise wounded by a musket-ball. Count Pulaski was left on the field till nearly all the troops had retreated, when some of his men returned, in the face of the enemy's guns, and took him to the camp.

After this unfortunate attempt, the enterprise against Savannah was abandoned. The French troops embarked on board their fleet, and General Lincoln marched to South Carolina, the two commanders and armies separating in perfect harmony, and without any reproaches upon each other on account of their ill success.

Count Pulaski and Captain Bentelou were conveyed on board the United States brig *Wasp*, which was then with the French fleet. The brig remained several days in the Savannah River. The captain's wound was not dangerous; and the most skilful French surgeons bestowed every possible attention upon Pulaski. Their skill was unavailing; the wound was mortal. He expired just as the brig was leaving the mouth of the river, and his body was committed to a watery grave. Thus was closed the life of this extraordinary warrior, at the early age of thirty-two.

The *Wasp* entered the harbor of Charleston with the flag at half mast. The same signal was repeated by all the shipping in the port, and by the fortifications and batteries around the town. The mournful intelligence of his death produced a deep impression on the inhabitants, and all classes joined in

testifying their sorrow, and in honoring the memory of a man, who had sacrificed his life in a brave defense of their cause. The Governor and Council of the state, and the municipal authorities of Charleston, united in rendering a public testimony of honor and respect. A day was set apart for the funeral solemnities. The procession was long and imposing. The pall was borne by three French and three American officers, followed by the horse upon which Pulaski had received his mortal wound, with his armor accoutrements, and uniform. An impressive discourse was pronounced by a chaplain of the army.

Congress voted that a monument should be erected to the memory of Count Pulaski, thus pledging the nation to perform a pious duty of gratitude. The pledge has never been redeemed. The vote stands on the journals, where it was entered sixty-five years ago, a memorial at once of the services and merits of a brave man, and of a nation's forgetfulness and ingratitude. Nor does it stand solitary there. To the memory of many other officers, who lost their lives fighting the battles of their country. Congress decreed the same tribute; and in every instance, except in that of the chivalrous Montgomery, the decree remains to this day an empty record, neglected, forgotten, a reproach to a nation's generous sympathies and sense of justice. Private individuals have acted a nobler part, and contributed to lessen, in some degree, the reproach that rests on their country. When Lafayette was on a visit at Savannah, during his triumphal progress through the United States, he laid, with appropriate ceremonies, the corner-stones of two monuments in that city, one to the memory of General Greene, the other to that of Count Pulaski, both erected by the munificence of the citizens of Georgia.

(Editor's note—In 1910, 65 years after Jared Sparks wrote these words, the 57th Congress of the United States erected an equestrian monument to Pulaski in Washington pursuant to the resolution passed by the Continental Congress at the time of the Polish patriot's death in 1779.)

The incidents in the life of Pulaski, which have been thus briefly sketched, will enable the reader to form a fair estimate of his character. In his private qualities he seems to have been amiable, gentle, conciliating, candid, sincere, generous to his enemies and devoted to his friends. Amidst extreme party excitements, and the feuds of a civil war, he was never known to embroil himself with the factions that distracted his country, nor to fall into dissensions with his military compatriots. His soldiers adhered to him as to a brother, and willingly endured fatigues and encountered perils the most

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General Casimir Pulaski. Contemporary portrait by Componetta, 1778.

Greene, the other to that of the munificence of the citizens of Georgia.

UNIQUE UNDERGROUND STAMPS



"**V**ARIOUS activities of the Polish underground have received widespread publicity. The campaign of organized sabotage by these patriots during the German occupation attracted world-wide attention and served as a model for resistance movements in other overrun nations. Undaunted by their conquerors' attempt to enforce a news blackout, they published and distributed their own newspapers, keeping the people informed of Allied victories and building up morale. It is not generally known, however, that the Polish underground maintained a postal system, complete with stamps and dated postmarks."

Thus wrote Otto R. Gutzman in the June 9, 1945 issue of the philatelic weekly "Stamps" upon his return to America on the Gripsholm after five years in German-occupied Warsaw.

When he left Poland following the heroic but ill-fated 63 day Warsaw Uprising of August 1944, Mr. Gutzman managed to conceal a set of cancelled Underground stamps in the double bottom of a Red Cross package.

Reproduced on this page are seven stamps printed by the presses of MIECZ I PLUG (The Sword and the Plough), an underground publishing house. Four of the stamps are similar to those issued by the Polish Government in Great Britain in 1941, differing chiefly in the shift of the value-tablet and in the addition of the word PODZIEMNA (Underground) to POCZTA POLSKA (Polish Postage). Copies of the London stamps are the 50gr deep blue picturing the Polish submarine ORZEL; the 55gr carmine rose with the ruined Castle Square in Warsaw; the 75gr blue green showing Polish troops in Great Britain; and the 1zl red violet representing Polish bombers in Great Britain.



The submarine ORZEL was selected for the signal honor of being featured on a Polish stamp

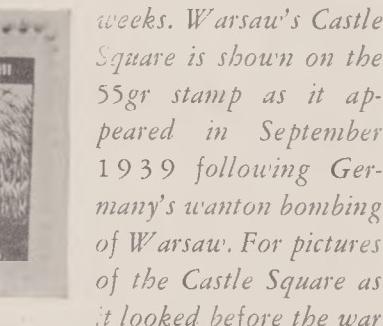
"**V**ARIOUS activities of the Polish underground have received widespread publicity. The campaign of organized sabotage by these patriots during the German occupation attracted world-wide attention and served as a model for resistance movements in

because it had been true to the highest tradition of the Polish Navy. In September 1939 it slipped out of an Estonian port and performed the incredible feat of maneuvering its way through the Danish Straits into the North Sea and to Great Britain, without ammunition, charts and maps. This Odyssey during which the ORZEL played hide and seek with the German navy lasted several weeks. Warsaw's Castle Square is shown on the 55gr stamp as it appeared in September 1939 following Germany's wanton bombing of Warsaw. For pictures of the Castle Square as it looked before the war

and as it looks now after the Germans completed their 1939 destruction by totally wrecking the Castle during the Warsaw Uprising of August 1944, see the front cover of this number of THE POLISH REVIEW.

The remaining three stamps have original designs as follows: The 25gr black stamp bears the inscription "Polish Underground Press" and features four publications of the MIECZ I PLUG organization.

The 30gr blue gray stamp entitled "Underground Press at Work" shows a typesetter standing next to a printing press and racks of type-cases. The 2zl red brown adhesive gives a portrait of General Wladyslaw Sikorski.



All the stamps in Mr. Gutzman's possession are perforated and bear 1942 cancellations of the Lowicz Post Office. Although discovery of these stamps upon a Pole meant the death penalty, they enjoyed great popularity in Warsaw. Sumis as high as 3,000 zlotys were paid for a single Sikorski stamp by collectors.

Polish Scientist Contributes to American Chemistry*



Professor Wojciech Swietoslawski.

AMERICAN chemistry has recently been enriched by the result of the efforts of a Polish scientist residing in this country since 1939. Wojciech Swietoslawski, Professor in absentia of Physical Chemistry of the Institute of Technology, Warsaw; Senior Fellow, Mellon Institute of Industrial Research; former Minister of Public Instruction in Poland; and, until recently, Professor at the University of Iowa, has re-issued a book in the field of chemistry, entitled *Ebulliometric Measurements*. This is a third revised edition, published by the Reinhold Publishing Corporation of New York, of a book Prof. Swietoslawski wrote before the war in Poland. According to the definition Prof. Swietoslawski gives in the beginning of his book, ebulliometry is "the technique of precise determinations of boiling and condensation temperatures." Prof. Swietoslawski has dedicated this work "To the Memory of THOSE Who Gave Their Lives for Poland and Warsaw."

In his Preface to this re-written edition, Prof. Swietoslawski states in part:

"The purpose of this book is to make available to physico-chemical researchers, teachers and students a comprehensive description of the ebulliometric method for measuring the boiling and the condensation temperatures of liquids and solutions. These measurements have found large application in ascertaining the degree of purity of liquid substance in examining the azeotropy of binary and ternary mixtures, in molecular weight work, in microanalytical determinations of impurity contents, in studying the thermal resistivity of liquids, in tonometry, and in every day analytical tasks. There are, of course, other fields in which the use of the method can and will be cultivated and it is hoped this treatise will stimulate attention to such new applications."

Prof. Swietoslawski then goes on to explain that the first English edition of *Ebulliometry* was published in 1936 in Cracow, Poland, while in 1937 the second photo-lithotyped edition came out in the United States. Supplements were subsequently composed in Cracow and then reproduced in the same way and attached to the American edition.

"In *Ebulliometry*," Prof. Swietoslawski continues, "I listed my old friends and collaborators who carried out research so as to enlarge the application of the ebulliometric method. Some of them have been killed in action, some executed by the firing squad, some sent to Siberia, and some have perished in the Warsaw ghetto. This book is dedicated to all of them, who died with the hope of creating a new life in freedom and justice."

"I extend my thanks to former associates who have survived all the tragic events in Poland and in Warsaw. A number of new friends in the United States are using the ebulliometric method and they are contributing to its further

**Ebulliometric Measurements*, by W. Swietoslawski, 228 pp., Reinhold Publishing Corporation, 330 West 42nd Street, New York, N. Y., 1945, \$4.00.

development. I hope they will effect improvements and will find new applications."

This new edition of *Ebulliometry* deals with: ebulliometric measurements; classification of liquid mixtures; method of comparative measurements; calibration of thermometers and measuring of changes in pressure; determination of the degree of purity of liquid substances; applications of ebulliometers to the study of azeotropy; purification of liquid substances and microebulliometric determination of impurity content; microebulliometric determination of moisture content in solid substances; ebulliometric examination of thermal resistivity; microebulliometric determination of the amount of vapors absorbed by solid substances; macroebulliometric determination of moisture; molecular weight determination of solid substances; boiling and condensation phenomena observed under high pressure; ebulliometric measurements under high pressure; determination of the solubility of solid substances; ebulliometric method of determination of equilibrium constants; and ebulliometric examination of physico-chemical standards.

The many works by Polish authors listed in the book's Table of References are a clear indication of the extent to which physical chemistry is indebted to Polish scientists.

Prof. Swietoslawski closes his Postscript to the book by stating:

"The author will be very happy if the appearance of this book stimulates further development of ebulliometry. Further application can be expected not only in physics and physical chemistry, but also in everyday industrial research. The author will be very pleased to learn that the method of comparative physico-chemical measurements will be applied in the future much more often in physical chemistry and in industry than it is at the present time."

Edgar Reynolds Smith of the National Bureau of Standards has this to say about Professor Swietoslawski's *Ebulliometric Measurements* in the August 3, 1945, issue of *Science* (Vol. 102, No. 2640):

"... The book is a unique source of authoritative and concise information on modern ebulliometric methods, most of which have been developed by the author or under his direction. The description of experimental technique and the illustrations of apparatus are of such clarity and detail that it can serve as a laboratory manual as well as a text of principles and a handbook of valuable information, data and references. The advantages, in simplicity, convenience and precision, of the method of comparative measurements are explained and emphasized throughout the monograph. Primary and secondary standards and their requisite properties for comparative ebulliometric measurements are discussed.

"... This new edition should prove even more popular and useful than the previous one. It should be included in the library of every chemist and physicist connected with industrial distillation, research on the physical properties of pure liquids and solutions or teaching physical chemistry."—P. R.

PRISONERS OF PEACE

(Continued from page 2)

faring any better during the coming winter. In Moetsch, Murnau and Wittlich there is no water supply, no possibility of baths, no sanitation. In many camps there are so many people that it is impossible to separate men and women. There is a lack of beds and blankets and even straw. In Samendorf the displaced persons sleep on the bare floors, and in some cases on the earth itself. The lack of soap and disinfectants is so general that it is quite impossible for many of the inhabitants of these camps to keep their bodies even

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CONGRESSMAN T. S. GORDON BRINGS BACK REVEALING FACTS FROM POLAND*

An Exclusive Interview by Mieczyslaw M. Nowinski

THOMAS S. GORDON represents the 8th District of Illinois in the U. S. Congress. He was born in that district in 1893 and has resided there all his life. Among the many Americans of Polish descent in public life and politics Thomas S. Gordon holds an outstanding place. For many years manager of the Polish Daily News in Chicago, he has numerous friends in the journalistic profession. His conscientiousness and efficiency still are examples for the younger generation of newspapermen.

Gordon's record in public office includes several important posts such as member of the Chicago West Park Commission, Commissioner of the Public Vehicle License Bureau and Treasurer of the City of Chicago. Elected by an overwhelming majority to the 78th Congress, he was reelected in 1944 to the 79th Congress. His pro-labor record in the House and his attitude towards labor in general are the best.

Representative Gordon was a stalwart supporter of the late President Roosevelt and is a member of the House Foreign Affairs Committee. Married to Celia Balcer, he has four children.

Keeping in mind the outstanding political record and personal integrity of Representative Gordon, Chairman Sol Bloom of the Foreign Affairs Committee appointed him Chairman of the Sub-Committee on Foreign Affairs in Poland, Czechoslovakia, Germany, Soviet Russia, France and England to "conduct thorough studies and investigations of all matters coming within the jurisdiction of such committee" (H. Res. 315, July 10, 1945).

The appointment of Congressman Gordon met with general approval. The American public was sure that it would get a full and unbiased report about conditions in the respective countries and especially in Poland, which thus far remains hermetically closed to the American press while the most drastic censorship prevents any news from coming out of that unfortunate country.

It will also be very difficult for the Communists and their fellow travelers to pin the fascist label on Representative Gordon following the publication of his full report, so different from the Red propaganda distributed in this country.

In my interview with Representative Gordon I

tried to obtain an impartial picture of the actual situation in Poland. Representatives Gordon and Ryter are the first two eyewitnesses to have returned from Poland. As a free American, Congressman Gordon speaks without obligations to or fear of the Soviet controlled "Free Government of Poland." Here are Congressman Gordon's unvarnished answers to my questions:

"What were your first impressions upon arrival in Warsaw?"

"The most terrible introduction to the things we were to see in Warsaw was the Okecie airfield where we landed, coming from Berlin. Everything was demolished around us. Hangars were a mass of twisted wires, rubble and bomb craters. The runway was so damaged that we had to land on a strip nearby. The first taste of things to come was the attitude of the Russian soldiers on the airfield. Not only did they fail to show any signs of courtesy but they were definitely rude to us. Only the arrival of our Naval attaché at the Embassy, Lt. William Tonesk, improved the impression of the welcome to 'free Poland.'

"As soon as we could, we climbed into the waiting American cars and proceeded towards Warsaw. With every foot the destruction increased. House upon house lay in ruins. In front of the houses we saw ragged, starving, desperate people. We finally reached the Hotel Polonia, the temporary residence of our most excellent and able Ambassador Arthur Bliss Lane. In front of

Representative Frances P. Bolton with motherless children in Warsaw.

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Representatives Karl Mundt, Thomas Gordon and Joseph Ryter with Polish women digging for coal in the ruins of one of Warsaw's main arteries, Senatorska Street.



Congressman Joseph F. Ryter among the ruins of Chmielna Street.

went downstairs and asked if they were Poles. I asked what was happening, was it market day? I was told 'No, those are Russians going East.' When I asked where they got their horses, a blank look came into their faces and I had no answer. We passed several such convoys on the road. When we asked the representatives of the government what they were, he said, 'They are German horses being returned to Poland.' One of the interpreters said quietly, 'They are not German horses, they are Polish horses being taken to Russia like all the horses and cows that the Russians wish to take.' Inquiries made of various people developed the fact that the Russian Army is living completely off the land and that not a day passes but that these convoys filled with the livestock of Poland go eastward into Russia. Government officials tell us that Western Poland is rich, that there is equipment there and that the Poles that come back will be settled in it happily. Others tell you under their breath that there are no horses or cows or pigs left in Western Poland, that all farm equipment has gone into Russia where everything movable goes. Members of the government themselves say very quietly. 'Help us to our freedom, that is all we ask.'

"Warsaw is having a terrific influx of population. In the last days of August the number of persons passed the 400,000 mark. And still more are coming. I dread the approaching winter. There are no homes to speak of, as it is hardly possible to call a home the shacks, caves and wall corners inhabited by the people. Some live in rat-infested basements, or in holes scooped from the debris. They are constantly risking their life as Warsaw is full of unexploded mines. We heard many explosions while we were there.



Poland is being stripped of its livestock by the Russians.

"Here is a glimpse of Warsaw's lighter side: The Fogg Café. Mieczyslaw Fogg is a Polish popular singer who had made appearances in the United States before the war. He has opened a café in a small shack. While drinking a liquid called coffee at \$10 a cup, you can hear the people singing the Polish National Anthem and the Song of Warsaw. Coming out of the café, I met a woman on the street selling mushrooms. Despite her rags you could see that she must have been a woman of refinement in the old days. I took a few mushrooms from her and gave her a dollar bill for them. You should have seen her face. She fell on her knees and tried to kiss my hands. In the hotel I tipped with cigarettes. My waiter told me that for 3 American cigarettes he can barter enough food for his family for a day."

"Is it true that the Russian army is still in Poland?"

"The city is full of Russian soldiers. They roam the streets with tommy guns on their backs. Then there is the so-called Polish Army. Its officers are mostly Russian. While there is a considerable movement of Russian armies eastward, Poland in August 1945 fed a very large Russian Army. The worst factor of this army of 'liberation' is that large elements of it are being demobilized in Poland, and the individuals are automatically made Polish citizens. By this method a cadre of pro-Soviet adherents is being created. Large numbers of them enter the Polish army or the local police."

"You would not be able to print the details of the stories told



Transport of horses in front of Warsaw's Holy Cross Church on their way to Russia.

me of the brutality of the Russian soldier. We heard this same thing in Czechoslovakia, but this was my first opportunity to speak directly with the women themselves. Russian companies would come down a street and be deployed into the houses and rape as they desired. A grandmother, a mother and a child of ten in one house were subjected to unspeakable horrors. It was nothing to have a woman abused by fifteen or twenty men and then thrown out the window. I have the names of the women and their addresses. I was given the details by nurses who took care of them. There is no question of the validity of the information."

"How are the Polish people faring under present conditions?"

"There is no restriction on movement within Poland. Everyone is required to possess an identity card giving his place of work and must present a pass when travelling. Normally there is no check, but failure to show the pass will result in immediate arrest. Poles labor continually under two thoughts: fear of arrest and procurement of food."

"The curfew in Warsaw is 9 p.m. People apprehended on the streets after this hour have been shot."

"Order is maintained by the newly formed Citizens Militia. However, the Minister of Security, Mr. Radkiewicz, about whom very little is known, has his own force of gendarmes, the equivalent of the dreaded NKVD who carry out arrests and deportations, and are responsible for the mysterious disappearance of individuals."

"Despite confiscation, nationalization and collectivization there
(Please turn to page 10)



Eastward to Russia. Polish horses confiscated by the Red Army.

CONGRESSMAN T. S. GORDON BRINGS BACK REVEALING FACTS FROM POLAND

(Continued from page 9)

is enough work for able-bodied people but wages are out of proportion to the price of food. I was told by many that there is no private enterprise."

"How about food conditions in Poland?"

"The ration system has proved a failure in Poland. Nothing can be obtained at normal prices. Everything of value is being bartered or sold to enable the people to buy food. While I wandered through Warsaw, I saw plenty of food displayed on the streets. Sausages, bread, mushrooms—all at prohibitive prices. A meal in a so-called restaurant consisting of soup, meat and vegetables is \$24. You see around Warsaw Polish women in ragged burlap dresses digging for coal in the ruins of the city. I spoke to several of them who told me that for a pan of coal you can get a loaf of bread in the black market. All signs point to an excellent crop in Poland but little attempt is being made to harvest it as the peasants know that the Russians will confiscate it. Coupled with this fear is the difficulty of transport. What was left of the rolling stock has been diverted eastward for the use of the Russians. As I have already said, the Russian Armies live off the country. If a detachment is transferred, the Russians take with them the entire stock of cattle and horses leaving but one horse for the entire village."

"Would you care to comment upon political life in Poland?"

"As of July 1945 there was complete freedom of religion and worship. There is even complete freedom as to the subject of sermons, provided nothing is said against the government. No one knows how long this will continue.

"Every city has its own daily, and political parties also have their newspapers. Bishop Sapieha edits a weekly. However, there is no freedom of the press. Censorship is very rigid. The Ministry of Information hands out communiqués and issues instructions on what may be printed. Instructions were even issued to leave out of print all pro-English and pro-American news.

"Primary and high schools are open. Universities are also being reopened, all apparently free and independent in action. The government, however, controls the organization and membership of all academic societies.

"There is no self-rule anywhere, even in villages and small towns. All officials are appointed by the government, and regardless of political party affiliation must take the oath of loyalty to the government and to Russia. Soviet Russia is the actual ruler of Poland.

"Politics as such are not permitted. Any anti-Soviet talk subjects one to immediate arrest. Even talk against government officials brings about an arrest. Agitation against Soviet Russia is fatal.

"The four parties as authorized by the Soviets for Poland are: the Polish Workers' Party, the Polish Socialist Party, the Polish Peasant Party, and the Polish Democratic Party. The Poles claim that all four are simply camouflage for Communistic activities. No known party leaders actually head any of the four parties. The real leaders are arrested as soon as they reveal themselves. The feeling throughout the country is that the present government lacks leadership and experienced personnel and is nothing but a pawn in the hands of the NKVD. It is reported that democratic elements long in hiding are coming out to take part in the elections, but they fear that even with free unfettered elections little will be accomplished if the Soviets put up all candidates. It is believed that 90% of the population is against the new government. The reception given Mikolajczyk is but an indication of the feelings against Bierut and his government."

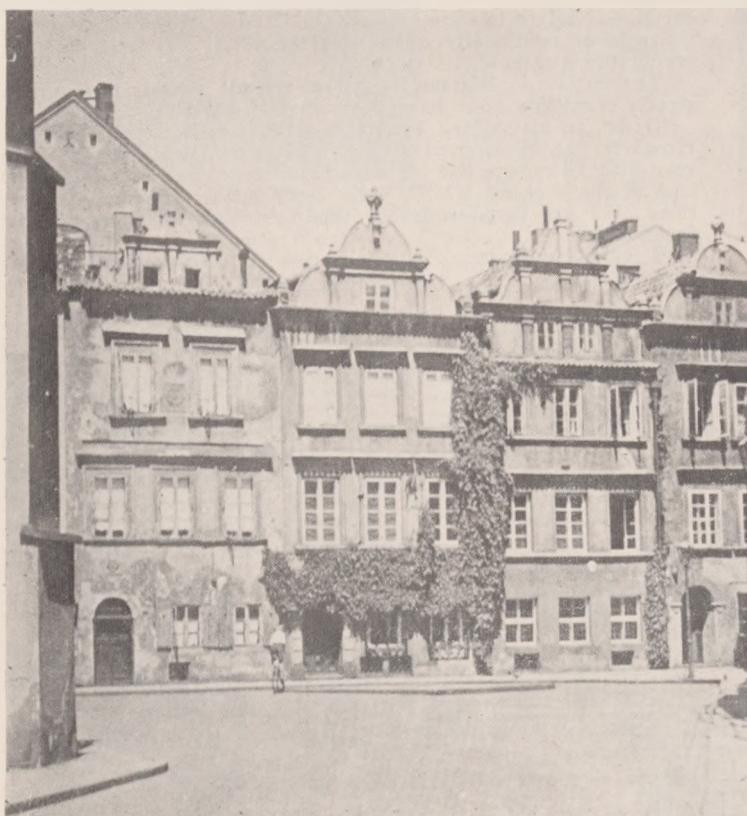
"What about the forthcoming elections?"

"All Poles want free and unfettered elections. All Poles want all democratic parties to have a free selection of candidates for those elections. Every effort is being made by the present government to postpone and delay the 'free and unfettered' elections. In a recent election to the Council of Railwaymen's Union in Cracow not one member of the Communist Polish Workers' Party was chosen. The results were set aside. They also indicated that, since the country as a whole was not completely democratic, the general elections would be postponed. Some believe that they will not be held before a year's time or not at least until after all the Poles return home. During that period the present government feels it can liquidate all opposition. The reasons for the delay and postponement are threefold: (1) if held today and despite the rigid control, NO Communist or phony socialists (PPS) would be elected, thus discrediting Bierut and his government; (2) there are still some strong democratic leaders in Poland like Mikolajczyk and others, whom the Soviets want to liquidate, politically or otherwise before the elections, and (3) they want the American and English free elections clamor to die down, as it will in time. All claim that even the Soviets want free and unfettered elections but not before they put up their own candidates, as was the case in Lwow in 1939 when all Poles were compelled to vote for one of the two candidates presented, each candidate standing for annexation by Russia."

"What is the attitude of the Polish people toward Mikolajczyk?"

Mikolajczyk is the most popular man in Poland. Everywhere he was received with open arms. He was a hero returning from war, a man who has the backing of the Allies. Obviously, such a reception was not in line with the policy of the Soviet Am-

(Please turn to page 16)



Kanonia Street, pride of old Warsaw, is now but a heap of rubble.



Ambassador's Speech Pronounced in London, March 11th, 1620, to His Majesty King James I by George Ossolinski, Polish Special Envoy Presenting his Credentials on Behalf of H. M. Zygmut III, King of Poland

In 1620, when fighting between Poles and Turks was at its heaviest, Zygmunt III sent Jersy Ossolinski as special ambassador to James I of England, to prevail upon him to give assistance to Poland in this bitter struggle. Here are excerpts from the ambassador's speech, which so pleased the English king that he ordered it to be translated from Latin into English and printed at his own cost. England's share in the war against the Turks was limited to some financial assistance, but in the next year Poland herself alone broke the Turkish forces at Chocim, winning one of her most splendid victories.

Most Renowned King,

The sacred roiall Maiestie of Poland, and Suethland, my most gracious Lord and Master, wishing unto your Maiestie perfect, and long health, most happy successe in all your desires, a flourishing, and peaceful gouernment ouer your most large dominions, declareth, by the most ample testification hee may of particular affection to your Maiestie, the singular propension of a minde, brotherly, and most studiously addicted to your Maiesties affaires, and obligeth himselfe by these Letters. Ant this Preface past, I most humbly beseech your Maiestie, while I briefly declare the rest of my Embassage, to vouchsafe me your benigne attention. The long concealed poison in the brest of the Ottomans, hath now at length broke forth, and the maske of many yeeres faigned friendship laid aside, Poland, the strongest bulwarke of the Christian world, is assaulted with the universall fury of the Barbarous. The East is filled with noise of preparation for Warre, the seas are loaden with Naunes, Asia is ioynt to Europe, and what forces Affrica affords, are arm'd for our destruction. Into the society of so great a Warre there come the hereditary enemies of our name, the Tartars; there come also both the Dacians; the Seruians, Bulgars, Bosnians, Illyrians, Tracians, Epirotes, al wilde and barbarous people whatsoeuer by force, rewards, promises, hopes of prey, desire of reuenge, are compel'd allur'd, enraged. A lamentable prologue to this

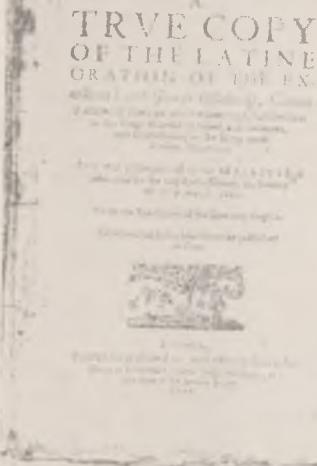
bloody tragedy hath lately bin acted; cruell Dacia hath greedily drunke the first bloud, where the perfidious enemy, mindlesses of his past and present leagues solemnly seal'd, and sworne, invading with innumerable troopes the territories of the King, my most clement Master, slue, to the singular losse of the Christian Commonwealth, our small, but most warlike Army opposed against him. For by that victory the courage of the Barbarous increased, and they growne insolent with so happy beginnings, haue in hope deuoured all Europe, being so farre transported either with arrogance, or mad-



Chancellor George Ossolinski. Contemporary engraving by J. Falck Polonus (17th century).

nesses, that euen without Gods assent, they beleue themselves able to destroy our Nation. With so great a danger not only of his owne, but of all other Christian prouinces, the Sacred Maiestie of my most gracious Master being moued, hath determined with himselfe to forewarne other Princes of the imminent peril, but especially, all delay set apart, to refferre it to you Maiestie. But such is the singular vigilancy of your Maiestie, so great is your study of the common good of Christians, that you doe aduertise them, to whom the dangers in respect either of time, or place chiefly belong; and your Maiestie preuenteth euen this message of my most renowned King, & of your own accord You haue offered what wee should haue sought, when to this selfesame enemie, you declared your selfe Friend of the Regall Maiestie of my most gracious Master, and that you would not forsake him in any danger. . . . I would to Good other Christian Princes might be moued by this most famous example of your Maiestie, and that they would rather be fellow labourers in so glorious a worke, then idle and slothfull spectators of others danger, since by neglecting their neighbours, they cannot but at length ruine themselues. . . . And surely wee shall suffer whatsoeuer Heau'n im-

(Please turn to page 14)



A TRVE COPY OF THE LATINE
ORATION OF THE EXCELLENT
LORD GEORGE OSSOLINSKI. As it
was pronounced to his MAIESTIE at
White-Hall by the said Embassadour,
on Sunday the 11. of March, 1620.
Commanded by his Maiestie to be pub-
lished in Print. London, William Lee,
1621.

H A L I N K A

by MAGDALENA DUBANOWICZOWA

SIXTEEN-year-old Halinka W. was a schoolgirl in Lwow. Her father was a policeman, her four brothers were in the army and her elder sister was married. When war broke out, she remained alone with her mother at home. However, her mother quickly sent her to an aunt, who lived in Jaremcze in the mountains. Meanwhile her father was killed near Lwow, and not one of her brothers returned from the war. Perhaps they went to France or were taken prisoner.

Next spring, Halinka returned to Lwow, which was then occupied by the Soviet Forces, and in her old home she was told that the Bolsheviks had deported her mother, with many thousands of other people.

Frightened and uncertain as to what she should do, the poor girl returned to school, but a few days later she was arrested by agents of the N.K.W.D., who burst in during a class. She went directly from school to prison, in her white collared navy blue velvet dress and gray woollen overcoat.

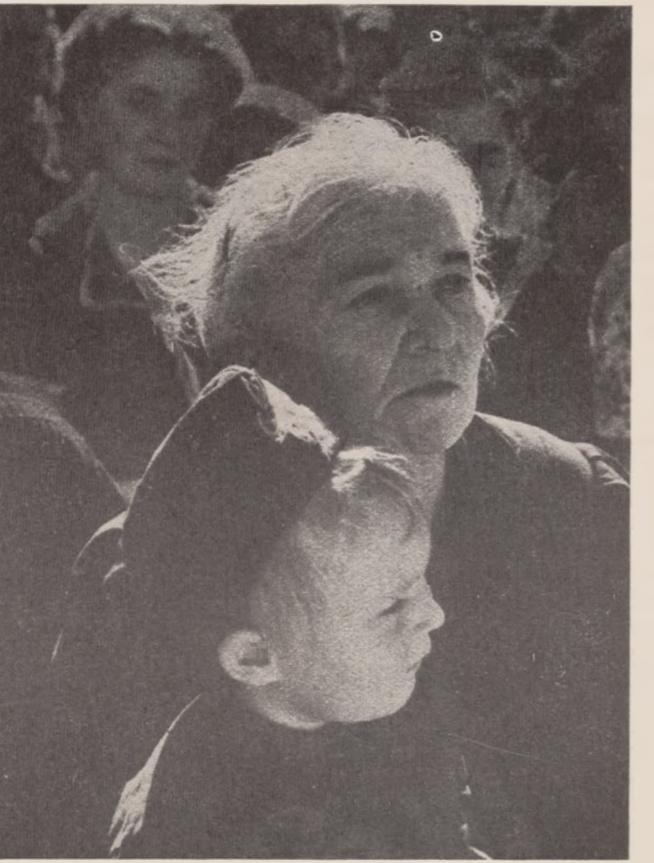
Her schoolmates sent some underwear, shoes and a dozen roubles to the prison. In her cell, which was so overcrowded that people had to take turns sleeping, she met a somewhat older girl. Acquaintanceship ripened into friendship and the pair determined to stay together.

The company in that cell was very mixed, street girls and respectable ladies imprisoned for being members of Polish organizations, old women and young girls, beggars and wives of wealthy men.

Halinka never learned why she had been sent to prison. After four months her name was read from a list and, with her girl friend and a whole party of prisoners, she was sent to Kiev. Two months later, she was removed to Kharkov. One day she was called to the prison office and was told that she had been sentenced to three years in a labor camp for juveniles near Khabarovsk, in the Far East.

After a two-months' journey the two girls, fortunately still together, arrived in a vast camp surrounded by barbed wire. They lived in huts and, with a crowd of Russian girls, they made gloves for the forces. They were allowed to write letters. Halinka got in touch with her friends in Lwow. She learned from them that her sister had been deported with her children to the Altaj country, and that her mother had been sent alone to a Sowhoz in the Province of Semipalatinsk. She got their addresses, but failed to establish direct contact with them.

It was frightfully boring in the camp. The number of gloves which a girl was supposed to make every day was so high that she never succeeded in making the prescribed amount. She was penalized by getting less food and grew weaker all the time. At last she decided, with her girl friend, to do something which deserved punishment. They wanted to be sent to a penal company and work at felling trees in the



Age made no difference in the fate of Polish exiles.

whom she had shared good fortune and bad since the days of the Lwow prison.

The authorities asked where this transport of Polish girls wanted to be directed. They all pointed to Kiev, in the hope that from there they might return to Poland. But they were not permitted to go to Kiev and therefore decided to go to Syzran on the Volga. Halinka insisted on being sent to her mother in Ajagus in the province of Semipalatinsk, but the authorities refused her request and ordered her to remain with the transport. Every girl was given 150 roubles for the ten days' journey, and a free railway ticket to Syzran. The journey lasted three weeks, because by then Syzran was already in the restricted area. Then all the girls went to Buzuluk, headquarters of the newly forming Polish Forces. Halinka returned to Asia, and after three more weeks reached Ajagus in the hope of finding her mother there. Altogether she had travelled over six thousand miles.

Towards evening she knocked on our door. I opened the

forests and thus escape from the close huts to what they believed to be freedom.

They quickly achieved their aim and were punished by transfer to a female company of lumbermen for six months. The change was not all for the good; work was much harder and conditions in the tents much worse than in the camp. But at first they enjoyed working in the forests in the fresh air.

The snow was very deep, and they were ordered to fell two trees in the dense forest. They did not know how to direct the fall of the giants, and soon the other girl was crushed by a falling tree. She was sent to a hospital. Halinka remained alone. She shed many tears and prayed for death, but she had to go to work every day.

When spring came, she was ordered to saw off the twigs and collect them in heaps. A few weeks after the end of the frosts, flowers began to bloom in the clearings. These flowers seemed to Halinka an image of Heaven. She did not know their names, she only used to say that there were so many of them, that they were as beautiful as a dream and smelt so good, and shone with all the colors of the rainbow. "If it were not for these flowers, I should have died, because I did not want to eat any more," she added sadly.

In June she was taken ill with pneumonia and was carried unconscious to the hospital. Her legs and hands were covered with festering sores.

The news of the Polish-Russian agreement reached her when she was very weak, but on the way to recovery. "When one lies down and does nothing, one need hardly eat at all," she explained to me afterwards.

As a result of the agreement of July 30th, 1941, Polish girls were freed from the camp and the penal company. In the train she met her girl friend, with

door and felt a pang at the sight of this lonely girl, so emaciated and hardly able to walk. After dinner she told us her story.

"Have you any money?"

"Not a penny."

"And what happened to the 150 roubles?"

"Well, I am afraid I haven't got them."

"Did they steal them from you?"

"Oh no."

"So what happened? Do tell me."

"There was a cake at the station of Irkutsk. One kilogram cost 20 roubles, so my girl friend and I bought two kilos each and ate it at once."

"But, my poor girl," I whispered, watching the child's ashamed face.

"If you only knew how good it was," she shouted with enthusiasm. "For two years we had not eaten any fruits or sweets. Then we bought some grapes, and some more cake and were left penniless."

"So what do you eat now?"

"Good people feed me. Sometimes I don't eat for several days. What does it matter?" and she began to cry.

I quieted her with difficulty. My daughters prepared a bed for her in the kitchen. In five minutes she was sound asleep. I noticed that she prayed before going to bed. A similar fate might have indeed befallen my own three daughters. This thought prevented me from sleeping long into the night. Next morning I awoke Halinka because in the small kitchen I could not work while she was asleep. She had breakfast, and then sat down on a log which took the place of a chair and remained silent.

"Well, my dear, what do you intend to do now?"

"Nothing. I shall sit here."

"But, my child, you must go to the police and find out whether your mother is in this Sowhoz."

"I can't go. I have no strength left."

Finally, after much discussion, she decided to go to the police. She left her coat, which was all she had in the world, and went. By evening she was not back. I waited for her late into the night, but in vain. I was terribly worried.

At last, in the morning she arrived, radiantly happy! She overwhelmed me with kisses and only after a while pulled herself together sufficiently to tell me what had happened.

She had had a fit of despair when I had ordered her to go and look for her mother. She wanted to lie down by the road and die, but finally she went to the railway station. A train was just arriving, and among the passengers who

alighted Halinka recognized her brother-in-law, who was on his way to enroll in the Polish Forces. Three days earlier he had said goodbye to her sister and mother. They were in the Altaj country, safe and well, and only worried about her fate.

Her brother-in-law talked to the conductor, who promised to take Halinka to Semipalatinsk in the afternoon without a ticket (one often had to wait several days at the railway station for a ticket). From there, for 23 roubles, she could journey to her mother. She had spent the night with friends and now she had come to fetch her coat and asked for the money. We gave it to her and she hopefully set out on her journey. After some time we got a post card from her to say that she had safely reached her people.

* * *

Halinka is not on the list of those who succeeded in getting out of Russia. Like hundreds of thousands of others, she did not manage to escape. It is not difficult to guess her present fate.

A Harvard Professor's Tribute to Pulaski One Hundred Years Ago
(Continued from page 5)

appalling, when encouraged by his approbation or led on by his example. He possessed, in a remarkable degree, the power of winning and controlling men, a power so rare, that it may be considered not less the fruit of consummate art than a gift of nature. Energetic, vigilant, untiring in the pursuit of an object, fearless, fertile in resources, calm in danger, resolute and persevering under discouragements, he was always prepared for events, and capable

of effecting his purposes with the best chance of success. He was true to his principles and firm in maintaining them. An ardent attachment to his country and to her liberties, and the hope of rescuing her from the thralldom of despotic rule, were the motives which roused his indignant spirit, animated his zeal, and nerved his arm in battle, till the freedom of Poland had expired in the grasp of her powerful and perfidious oppressors. He gained and preserved the friendship of Washington, who more than once in a public manner commended his military talents, his disinterestedness and zeal. This is a sufficient proof of his merits as an officer, and his conduct as a man. His activity was unceasing, and his courage was conspicuous on every occasion in which he had an opportunity to meet the enemy. He embraced our cause as his own, harmonizing as it did with his principles and all the noble impulses of his nature, the cause of liberty and of human rights; he lost his life defending it; thus acquiring the highest of all claims to a nation's remembrances and gratitude.



Poland. A symbolic woodcut by Wladyslaw Skoczyłas.

AFTER "LIBERATION" — LOOTING

(Continued from page 3)

Mr. Joseph S. Evans, chief European correspondent for "Newsweek" adds in the same issue of that magazine:

"... Rather than change the opinion that the Russians stripped their zone of machinery, cattle, and virtually all the able-bodied population, add to it the odd fact that they have also stripped the sections of Berlin now occupied by the French, British, and Americans, of a great deal of furniture and particularly mattresses, seat and couch cushions, and pillows . . ."

Mr. John MacCormac cabled to "The New York Times" (August 31, 1945) that "NKVD (Soviet political police) have taken control over most of road control posts (in Hungary) and have replaced Hungarian policemen at all main street crossings." The following excerpts from his dispatch furnish an explanation of this change in traffic control:

"... On the way to Budapest this correspondent passed mile-long convoys of covered wagons filled with mattresses, brass bedsteads, lace curtains, expensive rugs and cheap chairs, with the weather-beaten warriors who had accumulated these products of Western capitalism squatting patiently among them.

These Russian prairie schooners were inscribed with red stars, hammers and sickles and naive appreciations of glory of the Red Army whose representatives were now jogging along a 1,000-mile journey . . ."

Thus, the inventory of the loot taken by the "liberators" of Europe seems to be now fairly accurately established

by the few Members of Congress and American newspapermen, who succeeded in breaking behind the iron curtain blocking the "liberated" countries from the Western world. This inventory ranges all the way from port facilities, through electric generators, steam boilers, able-bodied male population, mattresses, brass bedsteads, cheap chairs (undoubtedly belonging to capitalists), lace curtains to . . . bicycles. And don't forget to add clocks and watches, these two items being the object of particular attention of the "Red weather-beaten warriors."

Martyred Warsaw, the most heroic of cities, has not lost its famed sense of humor even in this darkest hour of its age-long existence. As in every other good-sized Polish town, so among the ruins and the graves of Warsaw, bronze monuments of Soviet generals are now being erected. An American Congressman, who just returned from Warsaw, told me that one morning a Warsaw statue of a Soviet warrior was found adorned with a bicycle and an over-sized watch, both artistically cut out of cardboard. The two cardboard likenesses of things gone to the East were tied with a piece of string to which a piece of paper was attached with a few lines scribbled on it. In my own—crude, but faithful translation—this is what the lines said:

Take our bikes and clocks as well,
Take 'em all, and—go to hell . . .

There are reasons to believe that this sample of modern European realistic poetry expresses fairly well the attitude of the "liberated" towards the "liberators."

AMBASSADOR'S SPEECH PRONOUNCED IN LONDON, MARCH 11TH, 1620

(Continued from page 11)

poseth with resolution to renew the examples of the Saguntines faith, Tyrians constancie, or of what fortitude hath else beene found, but let our neighbours forethinke how they shall prepare their mindes to endure the like, or (which Heau'n forbid) greater calamities. Neither let them once imagine the Tyrant, whose minde the poore Sarmatian cottages drew to so destestable periury, wil esteeme more holy the rights and lawes of neighbourhood which he shall make with them, after whose cities most flourishing in Merchandise, most excelling in riches, most beautiful in building, he hath long gaped. . . . For who sees not the Tyrant onely to intend that which is knowne to haue beene long time debated in the counsell of his predeces-sors, that by possessing a country yeelding easiest accesse into all parts of Europe, most fertile of all kinde of graine, most replenished with all necessaries to build, and arme a Nauie, hee might open plentifull granaries to his numberlesse Armies, and prepare infinite shipping, by which being Master of the Balthike Sound, hee might passe into the Ocean, and so with two Naues, as it were with two wings, by both the Seas, presse, and oppresse Europe; that he might through most open Countries, and plaines powre into Germany, by those quarters it bordereth with Poland, his Land forces, where are no closure of Mountaines to restraine, no swiftnesse of Riuers to fore-slowe his iourney? This, long since, Solyman and his successors cast in their minde, neither were they, as it is manifest, by any other reason deterred from that purpose, then for that they baleeued, all Christians would conspire to defend that King-dom, on whose safety the good estate of all Europe depended.

. . . These our times, most Renowned King! finde onley you, who in your singular wisedome haue considered, and understood that all Europe is strooke at through the sides of Poland, and that the danger toucheth all Christians; that to seeke Warres after Warres, and heape Kingdomes to Kingdomes, is customary with the Turkes, who, not satisfi'd with the Empire of Asia, Africa, and the greater part of Europe, designe what e're remaines for prey, and according to their religion, imagine it is not lawful for them to doe otherwise. All these things your Maiestie well sees, and thereby hath attained all the glory, while other Princes stand doubtfull what to thinke, alone to haue vnderstood, and chosen what has behouefull for the Christian Common-wealth, and to haue beene Author to the rest, of resisting, by mutuall aides, and common succours, the so great rage of a most cruell enemy, whose fortunes haue growne vnto this height of power by their intestine discords. Proceede then, o most inuincible King! and reach out this your hand, not more knowne by Armes than Piety, to afflicted Poland imploring your helpe. . . . To prouide in others dangers for your owne, nor to cast your eye only on present, but also on future things, belongs to your Maiesties celebrated Wisedome, belongs to your Magnanimitie, which either world shall admire, which preserved Poland shall reuerence. And my most Renowned King, as for the present hee imbraceth with all possible thankfulnessse, the particular affection of your Maiestie towards him, so in all time to come, he will declare himselfe that Friend, which shall from his soule both fauour your Maiesties prosperous successes, and in aduense, if any such should chance, be no lesse moued then with his proper danger.

PRISONERS OF PEACE

(Continued from page 7)

reasonably clean and free from lice and other vermin. And yet, when the Polish Red Cross was able to collect a fair quantity of soap, they were refused permission to send it to the camps. Some of the old clothes and comforts were allowed to be sent.

As for the food problem, it appears that displaced persons are supplied only partially by the occupying armies. For the rest they must depend on the Germans who, needless to say, take advantage of the situation. In some camps, as for instance at Mar and Murnau, the displaced persons are actually provided with the same ration cards as those issued to the German population, but even this equality is illusory, as the Germans are able to make up the deficiency in their rations from hidden stocks. There are camps, as at Etzell, where the food is given out only once in every twenty-four hours. Only in a few camps are the rations sufficient to meet the needs of the prisoners. The norm of 2,000 calories is very seldom reached and is chiefly covered by the carbo-hydrate group of foods such as bread and potatoes, the amount of fats and sugar being very small. In many camps the amount of calories varies from 1,300 to 600 per head per day.

I have already mentioned that supplies of old clothes were collected, and some of them allowed to be dispatched by the Polish Red Cross, but, compared with the enormous quantities required, this amount has not been nearly adequate to meet the needs of people who in many cases are still in the rags of the garments which they were wearing at the time of their deportation or imprisonment nearly six years ago. Babies and children born during the war have had to be wrapped in paper, and rags torn from the cloths of adults.

Somewhere there would seem to be either an amazing lack of organization and proper control of supplies, or what amounts to downright inhumanity, and a callousness inconceivable when shown to an Ally of the caliber of the Poles. For it seems that while UNRRA has not started to give any material aid, there are in Britain large stores of food, clothing and cigarettes collected from among the Poles in this country, for which no transport has as yet been made available. One might wonder why the Germans should not be required to provide for the most elementary needs of our Polish Allies on the spot. Nothing may be requisitioned from the Germans.

But although the tragic lack of proper accommodation, food, clothing and the most ordinary comforts of life causes much suffering and unnecessary hardship, these things are not, in the eyes of the Poles themselves, the worst aspects of their conditions. What disheartens them most is the fact that the arrival of the Allies did not give them the liberation for which they had been waiting with such intense yearning.

Most of the camps are still closed and surrounded by barbed wire, and even guarded by armed sentries. Severe regulations prevent displaced persons from leaving them except with special permits—granted in many cases to less than from 1 to 3 per cent of the total number of habitants.

This state of affairs presents a striking contrast to the freedom of movement enjoyed by the German population everywhere. The victims of German oppression, soldiers and citizens of one of the Allied nations, must view with very mixed feelings and some astonishment the fact that the very people who brought them to their present plight are in such vastly better conditions.

Another basic cause of suffering among the prisoners-of-war and displaced persons is the enforced idleness and complete lack of recreational facilities. Less than one day after liberation, the British, American and French prisoners-of-war received quantities of books, papers and periodicals brought specially for them by air from Great Britain. Poles, oddly enough, were less fortunate. S.H.A.E.F. introduced regulations prohibiting the distribution of Polish papers and literature published in Great Britain or by units of the Polish

Army in Germany. Not content with this, all periodicals compiled and published by the displaced persons themselves on their own initiative at Braunschweig and Lübeck were suppressed on the orders of S.H.A.E.F. In both camps the printing and duplicating equipment made by the prisoners was confiscated.

Any possible basis on which to form an opinion of present conditions in Poland is removed by a severe censorship from whatever reading matter does come their way—doubtless in accordance with the approved policy of “persuading” these Poles to return to their country. I say this quite clearly and openly because it cannot be claimed with any justice or truth that the case for or against exile or return has been presented to these people in any kind of unbiased fashion. The only news from Poland comes via Polish broadcasts from Moscow and Lublin.

Immediately following their so-called “liberation,” the hopes of the prisoners-of-war and displaced persons were directed towards London whence they, of course, expected news and help from the Polish Government. Eagerly they waited the arrival in Germany of delegates from this Government—as other nationals in the same circumstances received from their respective Governments—but nobody came. Only the liaison-officers already referred to were allowed to effect any kind of contact.

Not only did the Poles in Germany receive no delegates from their Government in London—and at the time of which I am now writing it was the properly accredited Government of an Allied Nation, fully recognized by both Britain and America—but all manifestos and declarations of the Polish Government directed to the people in Germany were prevented from reaching their destination. The legal Polish Government was not only debarred from contact with its own nationals, but given no possibility of presenting their political situation, even from the point of view of explaining to the Poles in Germany the difficulties and obstacles which prevented it—alone among the Allied Governments—from coming with material and moral help.

In spite of their unhappy and difficult situation, the greater number of the prisoners-of-war and displaced persons wish to remain abroad. Their fear of returning to Poland found expression plainly enough at the time of the withdrawal of American troops from territories in the Russian zone. Out of 130,000 prisoners-of-war and displaced persons in this area, 112,000 asked for evacuation with the American Army.

We have heard the Governments of Great Britain and America affirm in various public declarations that no Poles would be forced against their will to return to Poland. And yet, I have it on good authority from people who were eyewitnesses of the events in question that this has already occurred. Less than a month ago, in June of this year, the Americans in that area ordered the forced transportation of Poles *under the supervision of German Police* from Waldenburg to Poland. From Pennig (Chemnitz) 112 Poles were forcibly sent *under German escort* to Poland. And, in May of this year, Poles at a camp near Brenburger were offered by the Americans declarations to sign expressing their willingness to return to Poland: those who signed were to get rations of 2,300 calories—those who refused would get only 1,300. To men in normal circumstances such an inducement as this latter example of “persuasion” would doubtless not be very strong, but years of constant oppression, malnutrition and nervous strain are not the best bases for considered decisions. If winter brings them only a tragic worsening of their already unhappy living conditions—we must fear that they will find themselves in a situation where their possible eventual decision to return to Poland would be nothing but a final act of despair.

Can we look on, from this island, while an Ally of courage and unimpeachable loyalty is left rotting behind barbed wire in “liberated Europe”?

CONGRESSMAN T. S. GORDON BRINGS BACK REVEALING FACTS FROM POLAND

(Continued from page 10)

bassador and Mr. Bierut. Soon enough the Poles discovered how helpless he is, and how he was put aside by the present rulers. In consequence they reason that the Allies either can't or don't want to help the Polish people and gradually public opinion is turning against the Allies, particularly against England which they had considered to be Poland's champion. Mikolajczyk is so helpless in his position that his own appointed Vice-Minister of Agriculture was arrested by the NKVD and no intervention on the part of Mikolajczyk can get him released. It is reported that Mikolajczyk had expressed himself as being very pessimistic about the future, particularly as to free elections. To date, two attempts have been made on his life, one in Cracow and one in Poznan. Should some future attempt be successful, the Poles predict, it will be capitalized upon by the Soviets and the Bierut government as an act of the former London government.

"In our interview with Bierut, the President of Poland, Osubka, the Prime Minister, and all the government officials, I noticed that all of them speak their piece to you and it is impossible to pin them down on any important matter. They seem to be afraid to say anything that they were not instructed to say."

"What kind of relief is UNRRA giving Poland?"

"The Russians are assuming credit for relief distribution in both Poland and Czechoslovakia. UNRRA is obviously being used by the Soviet Union for political purposes to spread Communist doctrine in Eastern Europe. The head of UNRRA distribution in this area is a Russian, and American representatives have little

or nothing to say about what goes on. Among the hand-picked personnel of the UNRRA delegation in Poland, there is not one single American of Polish extraction. The chief is a Russian, his assistant is a Czech, the displaced persons specialist is a Canadian, and finance and administration is in the hands of a Britisher. Russian abuse of UNRRA should be stopped before the United States Congress votes more money for this agency. A satisfactory program could be jointly worked out with the American Army of Occupation or the Red Cross who certainly are in very close touch with the food situation in Poland.

"I could go on for hours. But you know that we must first submit our report to Congress. Until that time I think that what I have said will give the American public some idea of the tragic situation of that courageous and unfortunate country."

"There is a great deal to do at the moment, but I think all of us left Warsaw with the feeling that we, as Americans, should insist upon the carrying out of the Yalta Agreement for free countries where there shall be a free press and where there shall be free communication. Maybe some kind of independence will come to Poland. At present there is none. If Poland were really free, she would not be occupied by huge Russian armies living off the land, indulging in pillage, looting, raping, mass executions and deportations to Siberia.

"The U. S. Government, the American people, and world public opinion will never forget the role played by Poland in this war. I do not think that honest men and women who cherish the four freedoms can remain silent in view of present conditions in Poland."

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